

# THE SWORD OF THE LORD

and of John R. Rice

"And they cried, The Sword of the Lord, and of Gideon." Judges 7:20.

An Independent Religious Weekly, Standing for the Verbal Inspiration of the Bible, the Deity of Christ, His Blood Atonement, Salvation by Faith, New Testament Soul Winning and the Premillennial Return of Christ. Opposes Sin, Modernism, and Denominational Overlordship

VOLUME V, No. 9

DALLAS TEXAS, FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 1938

Office: 201 East Tenth St., Phone 6-6888

## Hear Anthony Zeoli

In Dallas Revival Beginning Sunday Morning, September 18th

Brother Anthony Zeoli, the flaming Italian evangelist, will be in Dallas, God willing, before this paper is off the press. He will speak three times Sunday, at 11:00 a. m., 3:00 p. m., and 7:45 p. m. Through the courtesy of our dear friend, Brother W. E. Hawkins, he will also speak a few times on the Radio Revival, KRLD, and if he is strong enough, will speak on WRR, 7:30 a. m., Sunday morning.

We expect that God will greatly bless Brother Zeoli's brief stay with us. At present he plans to

be with us only eight days so do not miss a one of his messages. We pray that God will give such crowds and results that the revival will continue.

We especially urge a great attendance Sunday afternoon at 3:00 o'clock by people from other churches. Out of town visitors will be welcomed.

Let us earnestly pray. Only God gives revivals but He is willing and ready to bless His Word in the saving of sinners and blessing of saints.

## Church Adopts Missionary to Brazil

The Fundamentalist Baptist Church in Dallas has agreed to support Rev. Joao Emilio Henck, Brazilian-born man of German family, who is to go into the interior of Brazil among native Indians and Brazilians and there begin a pioneer work of soul winning, teaching the Bible, baptizing converts, organizing Baptist churches, etc. Brother Henck is now pastor of a fine, well-established church, with a three-story brick building, with auditorium seating 700 or 800. He feels called of God to go into the interior as a missionary. He has been a most successful soul winner.

Brother A. B. Deter, for thirty-seven years a missionary under the Southern Baptist Mission Board, commends Brother Henck to us as sound in the faith and a real fundamental Christian. Brother Henck is pastor of the First Baptist Church, Curitiba, Brazil. A picture of this beautiful building is shown elsewhere in this paper.

Brother Henck will send us, we understand, monthly reports of the progress of his work. His work will be in cooperation with Southern Baptist missionaries in Brazil, all of whom are fundamentally sound. Dr. A. B. Deter, for instance, was a room-mate of Rev. R. E. Neibor, met squarely the menace of modernism in his school days, rejected an influential and remunerative pastorate, to go to Brazil. He is a fervent soul winner, an eloquent speaker, and openly opposes modernism, the Federal Council of Churches, and worldli-

ness in the churches. We can trust Brother Deter and his companions.

Those who want to have a part in the support of this missionary may send their offerings to The Fundamentalist Baptist Church at present. Every penny will be carefully accounted for, receipt will be sent for every offering sent by mail. As soon as possible a separate treasurer for missions will be arranged for.

We hope this will grow into an unusual blessing and that we can support several missionaries in the foreign field. Let all of our friends pray and counsel together about the matter.

### Waterloo Revival Converts Write

"We are sincerely thankful to you for bringing Jesus into our hearts and home. We have found it changes things. We cannot begin to pay you for what you've done; so we take this means of thanking you. We will always remember you. May this give you more power to win other lost souls. Praise the Lord.

"Mr. and Mrs. Glen Nichols  
Waterloo, Iowa."

My body, soul and spirit thus re-deemed,

Sanctified and healed I give, O Lord, to Thee,

A consecrated offering Thine ever more to be.

That all my powers with all their might

In Thy sole glory may unite.—  
Hallelujah! — Dr. Henry Wilson.

## Sam Morris Speaks At Winona Lake Bible Conference

The rich blessing of God upon Brother Sam Morris' ministry pleases us here in Dallas greatly. He was on the program of Winona Lake Bible Conference, speaking to a fine crowd, and next year is invited to take the closing Sunday night of the Conference for a great message concerning the liquor traffic.

Brother Morris has letters from 1,500 people turned from drunkenness by his temperance and religious broadcasts in the last three winters. This summer he has been in temperance rallies, revival meetings, Bible Conferences, etc., almost all over the nation, with more calls than he could fill. God has greatly blessed him. His crowds are larger; the influence of his ministry is greater. We thank God for Brother Morris. He is a really remarkable Bible teacher, a fervent soul winner, an eloquent speaker, a fine Christian gentleman, and an humble servant of the Lord Jesus Christ.

And we are glad to say that Brother Morris will be with us through the entire Thanksgiving week of our fall Bible School, along with Dr. Robert L. Moyer, dean of the Northwestern Bible Institute and Seminary, Minneapolis, Minnesota, with Dr. R. G. Lee of Memphis, Tennessee, great Southern Baptist preacher and orator, and with Elbert Thurwalden Tindley, famous colored soloist who so greatly blessed our hearts last year. Other speakers will be announced a little later. We expect the largest attendance we have ever had, probably twice the attendance of any previous eight days' Bible School.

Dr. Robert J. Wells of Waterloo, Iowa, will attend the Bible School. With him we expect the "Joy Girls Trio," well known radio singers of that area, possibly Rev. Hillmore Cedarholm of the Family Altar Broadcast, and other Christian workers from Iowa. Many will attend from the state of Mississippi.

Bed and breakfast will be furnished ministers and their wives if we receive notice ahead of time. The program will be the best we have ever had. Plan now to attend the whole eight days.

## The Blood of Jesus Christ

(Dr. Lee, Pastor of Bellevue Baptist Church, Memphis, Tennessee, A Really Great Southern Baptist Preacher, Will Speak in Dallas Bible School Thanksgiving Week)

ROBERT G. LEE

Interwoven in the Scriptures from Genesis to Revelation is a scarlet thread—the story of redemption. Only as we consider that red road do we properly understand the story of man's sin and the Cross of Christ. Pitching our mental tents around Genesis, the third chapter and the twenty-first verse, we must consider the first glimpse of blood. "Unto Adam also and his wife did the Lord God make coats of skins, and clothed them." We see the innocent slain for the guilty. And further on in the Word, yonder in the upper room Jesus took the cup, filled and burning with red wine, saying: "This is my BLOOD of the new testament, which is shed for many for the remission of sins." And, passing from this verse we come to the treasure house of Hebrews, where gleams a verse, like a jewel in a casket of jewels, "Without shedding of blood is no remission."

This text has in mind SPECIAL blood. Not the blood of the first plague which smote Egypt, when every little fountain gushed blood, when the water in the ivory bath tubs of Pharaoh was red like the drain pipes in a slaughter pen full of blood. Not that blood! Not the blood of beasts slain at the temple dedication when Solomon "offered a sacrifice of twenty-two thousand oxen and one hundred and twenty thousand sheep," not that blood! Not the blood shed when Herod slew the babes, of helpless little children snatched from mothers and slain in cottage and palace, in street and on lawn. Not that blood! Not the blood shed in the destruction of Jerusalem, in 70 A. D., when Titus Vespasian destroyed the city and one million Jews perished within the walls outside of which Jesus had been crucified. Not that blood shed when "there were not trees enough in the forests for crosses nor room in the earth to hold the crosses when erected!" Not that blood! Not the blood shed in our own land when

millions of men marched Southward and Northward and met in death struggle, fierce and awful—the sweet Southern blood and brave Northern blood, streams of it, was shed. Not that blood! Not the blood of Paul, which soaked the dust of the guillotine, nor the blood of Latimer and Cranmer, which simmered in the fire, nor the blood of high-souled martyrs, which reddened the mouths of lions—no, not that blood! BUT the blood that "cleanseth from all sin;" the blood "that flowed from Immanuel's veins!" that "cleanses us from all unrighteousness," being righteous blood, precious BLOOD!

Go quietly, with thy shoes off thy feet, in Gethsemane. See Jesus there! Drops of blood stream down His face. Every pore, like a wee gate that will not stay shut, is open and blood comes out. What strange sweat! It is the sweat of One whose "soul is exceeding sorrowful unto death."

Follow Him to Pilate's court. With the cold-heartedness with which men drag oxen forth to the slaughter pen, they have dragged Him with sacrilegious hands from the place of prayer, from the place of His agony. In merciless mockery, they put upon Him a purple robe. In unmatched cruelty, they put a crown of thorns upon His brow and press it down, regarding not the nerves it tears and the arteries it punctures.

And, AND, crimson drops are staining the cheeks that never blushed for shame, cheeks white now like a hawthorn blossom. This is the shedding of blood without which there is no remission of your sins, of my sins, of all sins!

Hark! Do you hear something hissing like adders in flame? It is the sound of merciless steel lashes biting into His flesh. Do you hear a sound as of threads breaking in a tangled loom? It is the scourge tearing His flesh as eagles tear the captive lamb. Do you hear a sound of as water dripping from low eaves? It is His

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## THREE FATHERS

(Sunday night sermon, May 8, 1938 at Fundamentalist Baptist Tabernacle by Rev. John R. Rice. Stenographically reported.)

I am going to speak about three fathers in the Bible. Now today is Mother's Day but I have always felt like it wouldn't be right to leave out father. For one thing, our fathers need preaching to as bad as our mothers do, don't you think? How many here have the honor of being a father? God bless you. Many of you boys and young men will one of these days have a family of your own, and you need the message God has laid on my heart to give. I will mention three fathers in the Bible and from these three I will bring lessons that come very near to my own heart and home, and I believe to yours.

In the thirteenth chapter of Genesis is named the first father I will mention—Lot.

"Abram dwelled in the land of Canaan, and Lot dwelled in the cities of the plain, and pitched his tent toward Sodom."

"But the men of Sodom were wicked and sinners before the

Lord exceedingly."

Lot is the first man and I will bring him for an example to you tonight. Lot was a saved man, we learn from the New Testament. In the second chapter of II Peter, verse 8, the Scripture tells us:

"(For that righteous man dwelling among them, in seeing and hearing, vexed his righteous soul from day to day with their unlawful deeds;)"

And so we know that he was a saved man even though he lived a sorry life and led his family to ruin. What was the mistake of this man, a father? The mistake was, he "pitched his tent toward Sodom." It is bad enough that Lot himself went to Sodom. It was bad enough when he sold his cattle and got a bottle of wine and brought it home. But he moved the family, the whole house and pitched it toward Sodom and then farther toward Sodom and then one day into Sodom and took his family. Therefore, in an occasion like this, I speak of him, not as an individual, but as a father, as a father who pitched his tent toward Sodom.

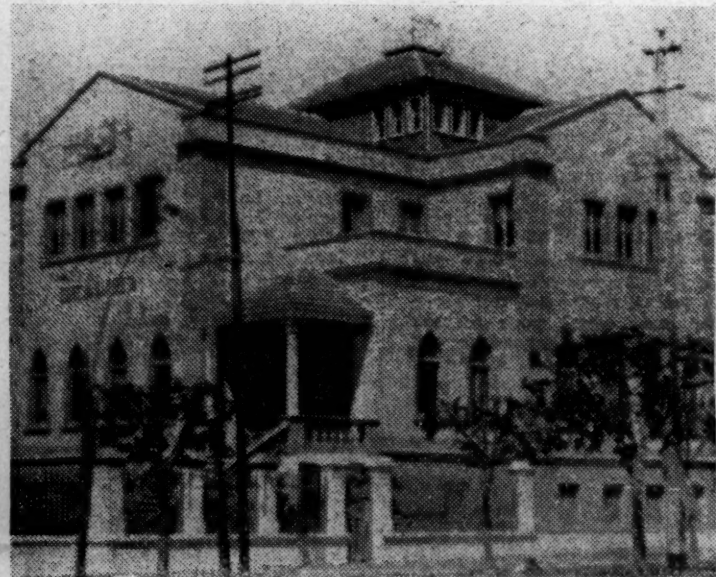
"But the men of Sodom

were wicked and sinners before the Lord exceedingly."

May I say this: every man of you is accountable for your family whether you would have it so or not so. You can't live one way yourself and expect your wife to live another way. A man that does that is not only a shirker and a slacker and a quitter; he is a fool besides. If a man says he is the head of his family and doesn't expect his family to pattern after him, he is making a big mistake in life. I have no boys to follow after me but I know I have six little girls that are watching my steps. It would be foolish and sinful for me to expect them to live a righteous and clean life if I did not live the same way. I wouldn't drink a bottle of whiskey for that right arm, I believe. I am afraid of it. It has the poison of death in it, the deception of Satan in it. I know my sin would one day find me out in my girls and in my boys if I had boys.

Lot moved his family into Sodom and made a fatal mistake when he did. Men here tonight—you may

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First Baptist Church at Curitiba, Brazil, where Pastor Joao Emilio Henck preaches. He is resigning to take up missionary work in the interior, supported by the Fundamentalist Baptist Church in Dallas.



## THREE FATHERS

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

curse and you don't want your wife to curse—you are not only a crook and a dishonest hypocrite, you are a fool besides. You are wrecking the foundations of your own home. A man will smoke a cigarette and doesn't like to see women smoke. You may not like to see it but your wife has just the same right to smoke as you have. Neither one have any right at all, but God is not the Author of a double standard. He doesn't expect one thing of a man and another thing of a woman. That is not in the Bible. God wants Christian men to lead the way. You ought to say, "I will live right and I want my wife to live true after me, and I want my children to live true after me." A man curses and doesn't want his wife and children to take God's name in vain. That man is a fool. I know of cases (and you do, too) where men had certain habits and their boys followed on that way and they punished the boys for doing the same things they did. I say to you, that is wrong and a sin. Lot moved his tent into Sodom. When he went into Sodom he took his family with him, and you take your family with you when you move into Sodom and into sin. You think you can perhaps spend time in gambling with a bunch of gamblers, among those with lewd lips, licentious thoughts, lustful appetites and habits, those whose time, energy, and desire are all spent in the things against God—and yet think your family can stay clean! Lot went wrong because he took his tent with him and his family with him, and he cursed and doomed his home by moving into Sodom.

Listen to me, you fathers, I am talking to fathers tonight. I promised God and you in the announcement that I would speak plainly and sharply. I am not talking to sissies, I am talking to men. I am not talking to women and children. I am talking to men. I believe I ought to talk plain tonight. Tonight men ought to say, "God helping me, I will toe the line. I will be as clean as I want my family to be. I will keep the same kind of company I want them to keep. I won't drink if I don't want them to drink. I don't want them to curse and I won't curse."

No man has any right to read what his wife can't read. You ought not go where your wife shouldn't go. You shouldn't have any thoughts you wouldn't want your wife to have. A man shouldn't go into Sodom unless his family can go with him. Lot took his family and pitched his tent toward Sodom. They will go with you, too. Let's see the result in this case. He called these wicked men "brethren."

The sad story is found in the book of Genesis, chapter nineteen. Down where Lot lived they were so wicked, God said, "I am going to destroy it. I will send fire and brimstone and I will wipe that town out." So God did. But God said, "I will tell Abraham about it. He is my good friend." So God went down with two angels and met Abraham and had dinner with him, and He told Abraham what He was going to do about Sodom. Abraham prayed, "Lord, you don't want to destroy all the righteous and wicked too, do you?" But God said, "Here are not even ten righteous persons in the city. I will send two angels to get Lot and his family out. I will do it for Abraham's sake." And for Abraham's sake He sent two angels to get Lot and his family out. The wicked men of that city compassed

the house around and would have raped the angels of Heaven who came that night, but Lot went out and shut the door and said, "I pray you, brethren, do not so wickedly."

Be careful who you call "brethren." Be careful who you compromise with. Be careful who you run with. If you have the wrong kind of friendship, the wrong kind of associates, the wrong kind of companions, then one day it will be the ruin of your whole family. No man can resist bad company, I don't care how strong you are. David didn't when he fell into sin with Bathsheba. Samson didn't when he laid his head in the lap of Delilah, his character was gone, his strength was gone. God forsake him. They cut off his hair and put out his eyes. Samson, grinding at the mill, was in shameful disgrace. Poor, blinded man of God! No man in this world is strong enough to move into Sodom and live like the Lord's people. You won't do it. You will laugh like Sodom and talk like Sodom. You will call that crowd "brethren." One reason I made up my mind a good while ago about some people—I don't run with some people who call themselves Fundamentalists, but lie, exalt self, shameful in private lives—is this. I couldn't have evil company. I will not trim corners just to please people. I will run with the Lord's people. I will not call the other crowd my brethren. I wish people everywhere would say, "I will not have association, I will not have dirty conversation with the devil's crowd and call them brethren." "Brethren, do not so wickedly." I always thought Lot would have done a good deal better if he had taken a single tree or an axe handle and waded in on that dirty crowd and driven them from his door. He would have saved his own family. But he lost the respect of his wife and children and all self-respect and the power of God, and he went to the dogs himself and his family was destroyed.

### Is Your Religion A Mockery To Your Children?

Old Lot got anxious about his family when the angel said:

*"Hast thou here any besides? son-in-law, and thy sons, and thy daughters, and whatsoever thou hast in the city, bring them out of this place;*

*"For we will destroy this place, because the cry of them is waxen great before the face of the Lord; and the Lord hath sent us to destroy it."*

"Up, get you out of this place: for the Lord will destroy this city." And Lot said, "My, here's my family about to be burned. What will I do?" Poor girls, they married unworthy men. Lot went out to his daughter's house and said, "Sally, get up. The Lord is going to destroy this city." His sons-in-law wouldn't hear him. They wouldn't believe it. They said, "He has gone crazy about religion all of a sudden. All people are like him when they get drunk; they feel that way."

The Scripture says this, and I believe it is the saddest thing that can be said about a Christian man. "But he seemed as one that mocked unto his sons-in-law." His religion was a mockery, a joke to his own family, to his own sons-in-law and to his own loved ones. I tell you, my friends, I can know just what kind of religion you have, I can tell what kind of life you live by talking to your kinfolk, your married-in-laws, your own family, those closest about you. I can soon tell about it.

Somebody here tonight says, "Brother Rice, my boys won't listen to me about the Lord," or, "Brother Rice, my girl won't listen to me about the Lord." If so, I tell you what I would do, I would put on sackcloth and ashes and I

wouldn't eat or drink until I got right with God and until I got the kind of religion my children had confidence in. I cannot think of any tragedy so horrible to a mother and father as to learn that they have no influence over their boys and girls whom they brought into the world and see those boys and girls go through this world doomed to Hell. Won't you listen to me? You had better pay a price, whatever it is, to have power with God and influence over your children. You had better quit your wicked, evil companions and turn your heart from covetousness and repent of your sins and start the family altar. Just admit you have failed and then get busy for God and have it settled so your children will have some confidence in your kind of religion. It is a horrible thing that some of you people who claim to be Christians, yet in your own home and of your own blood there are those who have no confidence in the way you live and the way you serve God. Lot was "as one that mocked unto his sons-in-law." All right, you fathers, you had better sit up and take notice. I am looking in the face of some of you people right now, grown men who wear pants—you have a job and draw a man's wages, but your own children are going to the dogs. When you see boys who never go to church, what is wrong? Why is that? There is something bad wrong at home.

A woman came to me the other day about her poor, troubled boy. God bless her, I wouldn't embarrass her at all, I am anxious to help her. She told me about her boy who is now in the penitentiary, and she urged me to pray for him. I am praying for him, but I told her this: "You had better go home and get down on your knees before God in tears and confess to God, 'Oh, God, I have failed, I have put my boy in the pen. I have failed, I didn't rear him right.' 'Oh, but I did rear him right,' she said.

"No, you didn't sister," I said. "The Bible says, 'Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old, he will not depart from it.'"

"Oh, but she said, 'I did train him right.'"

"I know you didn't. You have come to me for help and I will talk plain to you. Did you have a family altar?"

"No, I never did," she said.

"You didn't win him to Christ, did you?"

"No," she said, "But I have a good boy."

"He is in the pen at any rate. You didn't get him saved," I told her. She needed to confess her failure. And there are some of you men here tonight who ought to confess your failure to God. I would go home with a broken heart and confess, "Lord, I have failed; my family is going to Hell; I have led them into Sodom; I didn't have religion enough so that they could have confidence in me. You remember Lot was as one that mocked unto his own children and sons-in-law. If that is your case, it is time for an old fashioned repentance and confession in sackcloth and ashes. God knows what is the matter in Dallas. Wicked church members, churches are full of people in Dallas with no influence at home, with their own children. There are a lot of men and women whose children grow up and are out and gone before they know it. One day you will get concerned about your children and wonder why they are going to shows, drinking, gambling, going to night clubs, and keeping bad company, and one day you will sweat and cry and pray, and wonder why the great calamity has come to you. You will come to me and say, 'Brother Rice, I don't know why he curses, and why he won't listen to me.' And you will pray and God will not listen. You have pitched your tent toward Sodom. Your mind is on lots of other things, money-making, etc. You had better repent of your sins, or

one day you will wake up like Lot when he was as one that mocked unto his sons-in-law. That is a horrible case. If that's your case, I tell you now, all the weeping and tears and agonizing, all the years of sorrow that you have ahead of you can't ever make up for the time you have right now before your children are out and gone and you have lost your influence with them and all is gone. God help you not to move into Sodom.

What else about Lot? He called that wicked crowd "brethren," and lost his influence with his children. He was as one that mocked to his sons-in-law, and then what else? The next thing, he ruined his life with drink. Did you know a man can be a drunkard after he is really saved, after he has been born again? I do not mean he can be lost. He is a child of God, bought by the blood of Christ. You cannot save yourself and cannot keep yourself. "The blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin" (I John 1:7). "He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life; and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him" (John 3:36). And, my friend, I am not talking about losing the soul. Lot didn't lose his soul, but he lost his family and his influence and he lost his joy, and as he went out of Sodom that day his wife turned and looked back and became a pillar of salt. Others of his daughters burned to a crisp in the fire and brimstone from God out of Heaven that destroyed that city. Only two daughters remained and they went with him into a mountain and there Lot had to have his wine. Somebody says, "There is no harm in wine. I don't see any harm in wine." If you read the nineteenth chapter of Genesis, you will find plenty of harm in wine. Those poor, silly, worldly girls, brought up in Sodom with the customs of Sodom, made their father drink wine and committed incest with him. Read the nineteenth chapter of Genesis. Fathers, listen to me. Unless you want the ruin of your family, I would never touch it. I wouldn't do it, not a glass of wine, not a glass of beer, not a toddy at Christmas time, nor eggnog. I wouldn't do it. If you do it there will come a time when you will reap it in your children.

Lot is one example for you of a father in the Bible. Take your choice. I wouldn't want to pattern after him. I wouldn't want to move into Sodom and lose my influence and call those wicked men brethren and be as one that mocked unto my sons-in-law and have my life to be ruined by drink. That happened to a church member, a man that had been born again, one who was a child of God.

Here is another man, I will read you the story of another example in the Bible. He is one of the two oldest men in the entire nation. Someone says, "How do you know they are the two oldest?" Because when the nation Israel came into the land of Canaan everyone of the mature men, men who were twenty or more years old when they came to Kadesh-Barnea forty years before, died in the wilderness. Even Moses just looked over the river but didn't go in. Every man in the nation who was twenty or more years old at Kadesh-Barnea, died before he went into the promised land, except two—just two—Joshua and Caleb, the two spies that brought back a good report, Joshua, one of the oldest men in the nation at this time was a saintly man of God. God had used him for thirty years to take the land. He is an old man now, and ready to die. This man, one hundred or more years old, called the people of Israel together and said,

*"Now therefore fear the Lord, and serve him in sincerity and in truth; and put away the gods which your fathers served on the other side of the flood, (that is, on the other side of the River Jordan) and in Egypt; and serve ye the Lord."*

*"And if it seem evil unto you to serve the Lord, choose you this day whom ye will serve; whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the flood (the River Jordan), or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell; BUT AS FOR ME AND MY HOUSE, WE WILL SERVE THE LORD"* (Joshua 24:14, 15).

Now there is a contrast that I intended. One man, Lot, was a saved man, and Joshua was a saved man. Lot goes the way of the world and Joshua quits the world. Twelve men were sent over to spy out the promised land. Ten spies came back, and they couldn't take it. They said, "We are no bigger than grasshoppers. There are giants over there. We couldn't do it." Ten of them did. But old Joshua, one of the spies, got out before that crowd and said, "We can do it. Our God is with us. We can do it. We ought to do it." They brought the grapes of Eschol back from the land of Canaan, and one cluster was so big it had to be carried on a pole between two men. They brought other fruit, too. It was a goodly land, a land flowing with milk and honey, and Joshua said, "Our God will take up for us. We can do it."

I tell you, I want to find a man who is not afraid to face other men and say, "I will stand up for what is right. I am for God and the Bible and for justice. I am going to do right." Now any time you find a man that doesn't go with the current, but bucks it and stands up for God and the Bible, that man will have influence back home. His wife will listen to him, his children will wake up when he calls. You pick that man's children out and they will be the kind that reads the Bible at the breakfast table. That man will have influence. Joshua and Caleb said, "No, sir, we can do it." And God saved and kept them alive in the forty years of wandering while all the other mature men perished in the wilderness. Joshua led the army of Israel for thirty years. And now he is old, and he calls the people together and said, "All right, make up your minds. If you are going to serve idols, go to it. If you want to serve the idols of the Amorites, go to it. If you want to serve the gods of Egypt, go to it. But as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord."

There are several things I like about old Joshua. One thing is, he put God first. Any kind of religion that puts God in it, but not first, is not much good. You may put ten things or a thousand things after Him and put Him head of all those—but if you put one other thing ahead of God you won't win out. Joshua put Him first. "We will serve the Lord," he said. I thank God for a man who says, "The Lord is first at our house. The Lord is first in my time, the Lord is first in my family, and first in my business. We are going to put God first, we will serve the Lord." Another thing I like about Joshua is that he said, "As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord." He said, "I am a man, free, white and twenty-one. I am married and I intend to make a living for this woman. If my wife needs clothes, I ought to be able to buy them. I ought to be able to furnish stockings for her. She can-

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### THE SWORD OF THE LORD and of John R. Rice

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JOHN R. RICE, EDITOR, Pastor of Fundamental Baptist Church

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## THREE FATHERS

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2)

ries my name. I am accountable for her bills and I ought to be able to get her to serve God. I brought my children into the world; they are not animals; it was not an accident. I intended to have a family. I intended to be responsible. I am no cheap skate, no slacker, no quitter. I am a grown man, I will take the responsibility for my family. So as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord. You may put my name down that I am going to serve the Lord and you may put down the name of my wife and the names of my children and my grandchildren and my servants. Joshua will serve the Lord, Joshua's wife will serve the Lord, Joshua's children will serve the Lord and the whole family will serve the Lord." Joshua said, "I will answer for my children." Will you men answer for yours? "As for me and my house," Joshua said, "we will serve the Lord." I am talking to men here tonight. I am glad you women are here all right, but I am talking to men. God wants you to be men and sit up and take the part of men. God never did intend for men to hide behind the skirts of women. Some of you say, "I will leave it to my wife whether the children mind and whether they go to Sunday School, I will leave it to my wife about whether the debts are paid." You are a dirty slacker and a quitter and not fit to be a father. If you men can't say, "I will be the head of my home by the grace of God, and set the pattern my children can follow and I will make my children mind, and teach them about God and tell them how to do, and show them how to do, not only by precept, not only example, but discipline too." You ought to say, "I

will see that they do it." Joshua said, "That is the kind of man I will be." He said, "As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord." Oh, we need this tonight. We need a bunch of men that will say, "By the grace of God, I will take the lead in my family." I talked to a man the other day who said, "My wife is a member of the church, but she is backslidden now." "You are not a Christian?" I asked. "And your wife is backslidden? All right, mark this down. God holds you accountable as a slacker and a quitter because you have kept your wife and family away from God."

A man may say, "My wife may do as she pleases," but she didn't marry you to do as she pleases. She didn't marry you to serve her own God. Any man is accountable for his wife's religion, for the way she lives, for the way she dresses. He is accountable for the way she talks — God knows that is the biggest thing a man can be accountable for about a woman! If you are a man, head of a family, you should take the place like Joshua who said, "As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord."

This morning we had the women come down here, some came with tears, with sincerity and said, "I want to be a better Christian and a better mother. I want to put God first and set the right example before my children." But, oh, I tell you what we need tonight, we need a bunch of men, heads of families, to come down and say, "By the grace of God, as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord." I don't believe in the business of women and men going fifty-fifty in the home. Any time you see a man and woman going "fifty-fifty" it is like the man who was arrested for selling adulterated sausage. An Italian got a permit to make rabbit sausage. After a while he was arrested for selling adulterated sausage. Somebody accused him of putting dead horse meat with it. He was called up before the court and the judge asked him, "Is that really rabbit sausage?" "Yes," he replied. "But somebody said it had horse meat in it." "Well," he answered, "It is 'fifty-fifty'."

"What do you mean, 'fifty-fifty'?" they asked him. He answered, "Fifty-fifty — one horse and one rabbit!" I tell you, any time you have a home on the basis of "fifty-fifty," you can put it down, one horse and one rabbit, and the man is the rabbit, as sure as the world! God didn't plan it that way. Listen to me, you men, some of you go on with your big talk and you smell strong like a man that uses tobacco, but you don't take the responsibility as head of your home. You smell strong and talk big and wear pants, but the plain, simple truth is you are a sissy, a slacker, a cheater, a shirker. You let all the responsibility fall on the shoulders of that woman you promised God to love, cherish and take care of. Your children you brought into the world — you are accountable before God for them. But you leave the rearing of them on that wife and you sin against God. We need men, in an unusual way, to say, "By the grace of God, like Joshua, 'As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.' The whole gang is going to serve the Lord. And I will see that they do it."

Somebody might have said, "Joshua, you talk big all right, but listen, old boy, you have got something on your hands." Joshua said, "Yes, I know I have a job, but I have a big God, too." "What about the wild boys of yours?" "Oh, I know," Joshua said, "but I am the father of these boys and I know how to make them get up, wash their faces, and see that they go to church." And so old Joshua said, "I am going to do it." "Yes, but you can't." But old Joshua said, "Praise God, here at my place, as for me and my family, we will serve the Lord." But what about the bad influence elsewhere? But Joshua said, "We will have more good influence at home than the devil's influence they get outside. As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord."

Oh, tonight, men, let's follow Joshua and Joshua's God and say, "As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord."

Well, there are two examples of Bible fathers: Lot and Joshua. There is one more in the New Tes-

tament. I turn to the sixteenth chapter of Acts and find a happy, happy incident of a man, a father. This man was not a Christian. I suppose he must have been a very rough and cruel and wicked man. There are many indications that he was. He had two preachers in jail, put in there without anything to eat for supper. He helped tear their shirts off and beat them. He was a tough nut. That is the reason he was a jailor. When he put those preachers in jail — it was a funny thing about those preachers — they didn't fight back. They began to pray and they sang praises to God and God heard them. The prisoners all heard them, but God heard them, too. It is all right to pray when other folks hear you. But something happened when the Lord heard these two. "Gabriel, we will have to do something about that," the Lord said. "We can't get a bit of sleep (I don't think they sleep in Heaven). Gabriel, go down and shake things up a little bit." And some way the old jail began to rock and the doors popped open, the chains fell off, and the prisoners were all loose. But the old jailor — now listen:

"And at midnight Paul and Silas prayed, and sang praises unto God; and the prisoners heard them."

"And suddenly there was a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken; and immediately all the doors were opened, and every one's bands were loosed."

"And the keeper of the prison awaking out of his sleep, and seeing the prison doors open, he drew out his sword, and would have killed himself, supposing that the prisoners had been fled."

"But Paul cried with a loud voice, saying, Do thyself no harm; for we are all here."

"Then he called for a light, and sprang in, and came trembling, and fell down before Paul and Silas,"

"And brought them out, and said, Sirs, what must I do to be saved?"

I tell you one thing I like about tough cases. These tough customers are good for the gospel. The gospel is good for an old jailor. It has always been a delight to me to see drunkards saved. It is a joy to me to go down to the jail and see men, like we did today, weep, and come to Christ. A man this afternoon, already condemned to die in the electric chair — Wynn, I believe — and he was there and heard me preach today and lifted his hand for prayer and said he would take Christ as Saviour. I tell you, my friends, the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ is good for a man like this old tough nut, this jailor. Maybe there is somebody here tonight, maybe a drunkard, I don't know, I hope not, a gambler, maybe a woman chaser, maybe you have made your wife miserable and been untrue to your vows and set a bad example by cursing, blaspheming that would make one's ears burn with shame — I want to tell you, my friends, I thank God a man can go until he hits bottom and can come back to God. This jailor came and said, "What must I do to be saved?"

I will tell you what I would do if I had played the fool all my life and run with the devil's crowd. If I was a lost sinner today I would turn to Jesus Christ and be saved. A woman today in jail said, "No, if I wouldn't take Christ out of the jail, if I wouldn't be saved out there, I won't do it here. I won't do it while I am still in jail." I said, "Well, listen. You didn't need a lawyer while you were out of jail, did you? But you need one now, don't you? And you need a Saviour, too, don't you?" Oh, my friends, if I had gone into sin and my heart was broken and shame was my portion, I would turn to Christ like that jailor did and say, "What must I do to be saved?" Paul and Silas said, "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and thou shalt be saved and thy house." I am not just talking about men. I am talking about fathers. This man had a family. This man lived for the devil and he had a wife and children all lost because he was lost, and because he lived for the devil and they did, too. Paul and Silas said, "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and thou shalt be saved, and thy house." You can be saved, and your family can be saved the

same way. We have a gospel that is good for father, mother and the children — the whole gang together. Notice this about it. In the first place, this man asked what to do to be saved. Listen to me, if you have boys not saved, or girls not saved, don't you think you had better take the matter to the Lord? If you have a wife unsaved, who may die tonight and go to Hell, don't you think you had better take the matter to the Lord?

I was in a home once where the boy died. This mother told me how her boy died, begging the mother to tell him how to be saved. She said, "Brother Rice, I didn't know how to tell him." That was a sad thing. I wouldn't go on like this jailor. Up to this time he let his family go. I honor a man that has got the stuff to come up and say, "I want to get right with God. I am tired of sin. I know I am a sinner, I want to be saved." Paul and Silas answered and said, "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and thou shalt be saved, and thy house." Let me say just this word here. It is a short distance to God. You may have gone a million miles from God and your heart may feel so cold and you may feel that God hates you because you have wronged Him and sinned against Him. Every impulse to turn to God, every warning He has given, you have not heeded, but have resisted the Holy Spirit and ignored the Bible and ran away from God. But, my friends, if you will now simply trust Jesus Christ you can be saved. Just admit to the Lord, "I am a poor, old sinner. I ought to go to Hell. I need mercy. I want forgiveness now." He will hear you and save you.

If you will trust Him, you can be saved. "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and thou shalt be saved." Isn't that good news for a troubled soul, for a man like this jailor who knows he is a sinner and knows he must do something to be saved? "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ," He will fix it for you. He will fix your family, too. "Thou shalt be saved and thy house." God promises the plan of salvation for the rest of the family, too. This fellow, as soon as he learned how to be saved, settled it. This old jailor came trembling and brought them out and fell down before them and said, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?" But he didn't sit down on a mourner's bench and cry and weep. No, he said, "I don't want to wait until tomorrow, I want it settled now."

I was in a revival in east Dallas at the end of Main Street on Carroll. I preached one night and we had a number of conversions. When the service was over we stood around and waited and rejoiced and I answered some questions and after a while when we were ready to go home there came a man running up the sidewalk and he said, "Brother Rice, I have got to settle it. I want all the way home. I walked those six blocks and every step I took something said within me, 'You are making the biggest mistake of your life. You are acting a fool. You had better settle it tonight, you had better get saved

tonight.' I walked those six blocks and as I stepped up on the porch of my home, something said, 'Don't go in that door. If you do, you are doomed forever.' And as I put my hand on the doorknob something within me said, 'Don't turn that door knob. Don't go in that door unsaved. You will never be saved if you are not tonight.' And, Brother Rice, I turned and ran the rest of the way back here. I was afraid you would be gone home. I want to be saved."

Praise the Lord, he was saved that night. This jailor said, "I want to be saved. What must I do to be saved?" He didn't get just something in the head, he got something in his heart, too. He did not just learn how, but he trusted Christ for salvation.

Two years ago when I preached in Binghamton, New York, in a revival campaign, a man sat and heard me preach one cold winter night. We had a great crowd. The invitation was given, and a man, an executive for one of the shoe companies, Mr. Gregory, went to talk to him. He put his arm around his neck and told the man how to be saved. "Not now," he said, and he held on the seat and trembled. Beads of sweat broke out on his forehead but he wouldn't surrender. He struggled with God. A fight went on in his soul. After a while he keeled over in a dead faint. Two men got on each side of him and led him out into the cold zero air. There was snow and ice on the ground, mid-winter in February. Soon he was revived and he said, "I dare not go home. I had better go back." "You want to go now and tell it?" Mr. Gregory asked him. He said, "If I don't do it now, I may never do it. I am afraid I will never be saved if I don't do it tonight." They brought him back in and he came around through the wings and upon the platform where I was and said, "Brother Rice, I can't go home without settling it. I must get it settled tonight." And he trusted Christ right then. This man said, "I will do it," and he trusted Christ. Paul and Silas told this jailor how to be saved and then he did it. (CONTINUED ON PAGE 4)

## The Blood of Jesus Christ

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

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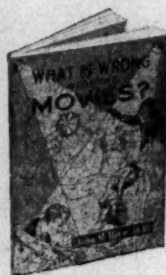
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## THREE FATHERS

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3)

right then. He didn't say, "Well, let me think about it." That isn't the way to be saved. That is the reason your family is going to Hell. "Maybe I will do it tomorrow." That jailor didn't say that. He said, "I will do it" and settled it right then.

But that isn't all. The next thing, he got his whole family. Listen to what the Scripture said:

"And they spake unto him the word of the Lord, and to all that were in his house.

"And he took them the same hour of the night, and washed their stripes; and was baptized, he and all his, straightway.

"And when he had brought them into his house, he set meat before them, and rejoiced, believing in God with all his house."

You know that old wicked fellow, bless his heart, he surely meant business! He got busy. He didn't waste any time. No grass grew under his feet. When he trusted Christ, then his whole family got saved. The whole bunch got out there and were baptized, the whole family, and he brought Paul and Silas back and washed their stripes and had a big supper cooked for them at midnight. The whole family sat around the table and rejoiced that they were saved. Wasn't he thorough going? I wish I had that man for a deacon in my church! I would have a floor in the basement then, and we would have lights in here. I would sic him on some of you and he would get it done. I wish I had that guy for a deacon in my church. I would call on him and he would get the work done up brown, wouldn't he?

Oh, my friends, listen to me. Some of you men, I will tell you what I would do. I would say, "God helping me, I am going to take Christ as my Saviour." You ought to make sure about your wife, too, and I would see every child I could tonight. If I had a boy away from home I would call him long distance before I slept and tell him that Dad has trusted Christ and you wanted him to be saved. I would say, "I wouldn't sleep before I heard you tell me you will take Him, too, Son." Get

your whole family in tonight. That is what the jailor did. He got it settled, he and his house. He got them all saved. Isn't that blessed?

Now the next thing. Boy, he wasn't a half-way guy! He not only got them saved but he got them baptized. You folk say, "Next Sunday, if it is not too cold and if the water is warm, I will be baptized." But the old jailor said, "Get out here and baptize me tonight." They didn't have electric lights, and Paul might have said, "It is midnight." "Yes, I know," the jailor said, "and the water is pretty cold, but I have been on the devil's side long enough. Let's do it tonight, Paul." I really don't think Paul held back very much, but if he did, that guy out-talked him. I like that guy, don't you? If I were you and I had lived on the devil's side as long as you have, I would say, "Good bye, old devil, I am going to be saved now." And if I was saved, I would get in the church and be baptized and I would be next Wednesday night in prayer meeting and next Sunday morning I would be in a Sunday School class. I would say, "Preacher, what can I do. Can I stand back there and shake hands with the folks? Preacher, what can I do next?" You poor, half-baked, wish-washy men who never could make up your minds, I am sorry for you. God be praised for a man like the jailor who got his whole family and got them baptized the same hour of the night. Bless his heart! He had been a bad customer up to this time, but when he turned to the Lord, he turned all over. Did you hear about the little girl who had a little curl in the middle of her forehead? When she was good she was very, very good, and when she was bad, she was horrid. That is what I like about the jailor. He was horrid a long time and he got very, very good. When he got saved he got saved all over. He got saved and got baptized. He got his family saved, too, and got them baptized! He was out and out! I like that fellow, don't you?

Mr. Moody went to England one time and had a great revival. One man met him and introduced him to another. When he met this other fellow, he said, "Is Moody O. and O? The other fellow said, "Yes, he is O. and O." Moody said, "What did he mean?" This man said, "He wanted to know if you are OUT and OUT for Christ." Moody said, "I am glad you could tell him that I am O. and O." This old jailor was out and out for Jesus Christ. How many here are saved and not in a church? I would apologize to my wife and children and beg God to forgive me and get the whole kit 'n bilin' in tonight. Some of you people have moved to town. You did not forget to have your mail transferred here. You are not quite sure how long you are going to stay, but you haven't moved your membership. You are a slacker and a quitter. Your heart is not in it. You don't win your children to Christ. Why don't you get into a church and let your light shine? If you are saved, get your family saved and then get them baptized. There are twenty people here tonight that ought to join this church. You men are to blame. You men, you heads of families, you fathers — Brother Cherry, I thought about you the other day, your boy there beside you, your wife beside you there: you don't mind me using you as an illustration. You went a long time. Cherry, I would not waste any more time. You got on the Lord's side, your family is all in and baptized. Let the light shine. I would say, "The devil's got all the grey hairs he is going to have. From this time on, all is for Jesus, everything for Jesus Christ." I wouldn't waste any more time. No, I wouldn't.

Some folk here tonight are saved but your companion isn't saved. You are saved but your family is not. Your boys are going to Hell. You are saved but your girls are living for the devil. I would say, "God helping me, 'As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.'" I would be like the old jailor, get saved first and then get my family saved.

Several women came this morning weeping to confess they had failed and wanted to make a new resolution and start again for God. Some of you here, you men, ought

to come as the women came. There is a man sitting back there that came this morning and trusted Christ. He said, "I am not ashamed of it, Brother Rice." You are not sorry, and you are glad you came to trust Christ this morning right in the middle of the thing, aren't you? Where is Mr. Hall? Bless his heart, he came claiming Christ this morning. We had a blessed time.

You want to have a revival? If we ever have a revival, T—

will have to quit waiting for his wife to do all the leading, quit waiting for his boy. You ought to get in the church with God's people and be baptized, start the family altar and start living for Jesus Christ and start winning souls. If you get that and other men get that, then something will happen for Jesus in Dallas, Texas. Yes, there will. "As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord." Don't you want to come tonight and say, "God helping me, I will be out and out for Jesus Christ and lead my family right." Don't you feel like doing that? Do you feel like saying, "If the Lord will take me, He can have all I have tonight." I would go home and say, "Wife, the Lord is first in this house from now on." I would call the children and say, "Children, I have failed so many times. The Lord has got a right to the best in every one of us." Don't you want to? God is calling tonight. I am glad you men came. I am glad you women came, too. You men, you Christian men, let's have a prayer about it, then step out here boldly.

### PRAYER

"Oh, God, give grace to do so. Help them to start the family altar, to start winning souls, daily reading of the Bible, to set a pattern for boys and girls, winning them to Jesus Christ. Oh, God, bless these men. Give us grace. Give a triumphant, glorious victory tonight for Thine own sake. Amen."

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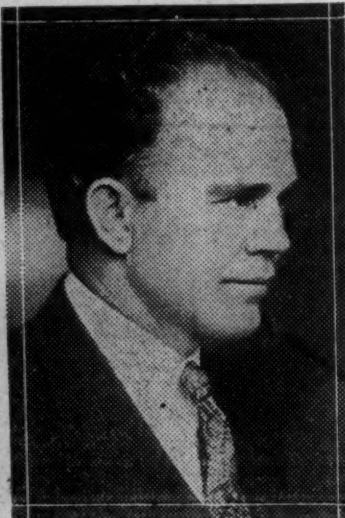
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